

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

ORDER NO. 96-124

RESCISSION OF SITE CLEANUP REQUIREMENTS FOR:

**SANMINA CORPORATION, dba SANTA CLARA CIRCUITS AND
CHARLES AND CONNIE DIETRICH**

for the property located at the

**1871-1881 MARTIN AVENUE
SANTA CLARA
SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (hereinafter called the Board), finds that:

Site Description

1. The Santa Clara Circuits facility was formerly located on a parcel at the intersection of Scott Boulevard and Martin Avenue, west of the San Jose airport in the City of Santa Clara, Santa Clara County. The Site is about 45 feet above sea level, on a gently north sloping alluvial plain in a post-agricultural industrial neighborhood.

Site History

2. Santa Clara Circuits operated a printed circuit board manufacturing facility at the Site between 1973 and 1986, when a fire caused operations to cease. Metal plating solutions, caustics, acids and solvents were chemicals used onsite and were released from their containers during the fire. Site assessment work has been ongoing since 1987.

Charles and Connie Dietrich, owners of the 1871-1881 Martin Avenue addressed property (Site), were landlords to the former Santa Clara Circuits. This property has subsequently been partially redeveloped to include the property fronting Scott Boulevard with postal addresses at 2503-2529 Scott Boulevard. The remaining undeveloped portion of the property currently retains the 1871-1881 Martin Avenue address.

3. Sanmina Corporation (Sanmina) performed soil remedial actions from December 1990 to January 1991. The concentrations for pollutants remaining in soil were 30 parts per million (ppm) for copper, 11 ppm for lead, 45 ppm for nickel and 1 ppm for total volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The cleanup levels are consistent with Board cleanup criteria. An estimated 515 cubic yards of treated soil was disposed of offsite. In letters dated March 6, 1991 and June 5, 1991 these cleanup levels were found acceptable by both Board staff and the City of Santa Clara, respectively.

In 1988 monitoring wells MW-1 through MW-3 were installed in the A-zone aquifer after the building was demolished in 1987. Two additional wells were later installed in 1990 to assess the groundwater conditions of the upgradient portion of

the site (MW-4) and the water quality in the next lower aquifer (MW-5). In the A-zone aquifer VOCs were originally found in the range of 400 to 500 parts per billion (ppb). Currently and for the last several years concentrations in the A-zone aquifer have ranged from non-detect to very low levels. This decrease in concentration is typical of an area where no source remains in soil or groundwater and is consistent with background levels. Monitoring well data has shown that no contaminants have ever been detected in the lower aquifer. To verify that no source remained on the property Sanmina performed (1994-1995) an exhaustive soil and groundwater investigation on both the Site and the neighboring down and cross-gradient properties. This investigation as documented by a report entitled *Final Report Hydrogeologic and Volatile Halocarbon Investigations* and dated February 21, 1996, was successful in showing that no sources of VOCs remain on the Site in either soil or groundwater. In addition, the investigation also provided evidence that other upgradient sources may have been the sole contributor to the original high concentrations of VOCs once found on the Site.

Regulatory History

4. On August 19, 1992, the Board adopted Site Cleanup Requirements Order No. 92-107 which required soil and groundwater investigations and the proposal and implementation of remedial actions if necessary.

Recommendation for Final Action

5. The objective of the report titled *Final Report Hydrogeologic and Volatile Halocarbon Investigations*, was to present the results of the 1994 through 1995 soil and groundwater investigations providing impetus and evidence for a timely closure. Given the results of this report and existing levels of VOCs in groundwater there is no need for further remedial actions or groundwater monitoring. The case should be closed.
6. The monitoring wells should be destroyed. The discharger should produce a final letter report documenting that all the monitoring wells used at the site have been properly destroyed pursuant to Santa Clara Valley Water District Ordinance 90-1.

Basin Plan

7. The Board adopted a revised Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin (Basin Plan) on June 21, 1995. This updated and consolidated plan represents the Board's master water quality control planning document. The revised Basin Plan was approved by the State Water Resources Control Board and the Office of Administrative Law on July 20, 1995, and November 13, 1995, respectively. A summary of regulatory provisions is contained in 23 CCR 3912. The Basin Plan defines beneficial uses and water quality objectives for waters of the State, including surface waters and groundwater.

8. The Basin Plan designates the following existing and potential beneficial uses of the groundwater underlying and adjacent to the former Santa Clara Circuits facility include:
 - a. Industrial process water supply,
 - b. Industrial service water supply,
 - c. Municipal and Domestic water supply, and
 - d. Agricultural water supply.

Basis for Rescission of Order

9. The Board establishes the overall cleanup level for a water body based upon the most sensitive beneficial use identified. In all cases, the Board first considers high quality or naturally occurring "background" concentration objectives as the cleanup levels for polluted groundwater with a beneficial use of municipal and domestic supply, such as at this site.
10. All known sources of contamination have been removed or mitigated. VOC concentrations in groundwater have decreased significantly over the seven year monitoring and investigation program and have met or exceed maximum contaminant levels or are well below health based cleanup levels being both protective of human health and the environment.
11. Based on the above findings and in consideration of the reasonable protection of beneficial uses and maximum benefit to the people of the State pursuant to State Board Resolution 68-16, additional remediation and groundwater monitoring are not necessary.
12. Water Code Section 13263 requires the Board to review Waste Discharge Requirements periodically and modify them as necessary. Given that relevant water quality objectives are now met at the site, the Site Cleanup Requirements are no longer needed and should be rescinded.

CEQA

13. This action constitutes a minor modification to land and as such is categorically exempt from the provisions of the CEQA pursuant to Section 15321 of the Resources Agency Guidelines.

Notice

14. The Board has notified the dischargers and interested persons of its intent to rescind Site Cleanup Requirements for this site and has provided them with the opportunity for a public hearing and opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
15. The Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to Section 13263 of the California Water Code, that:
Order No. 92-107 is rescinded.

I, Loretta K. Barsamian, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region, on September 18, 1996.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Loretta K. Barsamian", with a horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Loretta K. Barsamian
Executive Officer